

MAY 17 1966

Wider Scrutiny Of CIA Opposed By Russell

Foreign Relations Unit Seeks To 'Muscle In' On His Jurisdiction, He Charges

Michigan State role in CIA project debated Page A 4

COPYRIGHT
BY JOSEPH R. L. STERNE
(Washington Bureau of The Sun)

Washington, May 16—Senator Russell (D., Ga.), chairman of the Armed Services Committee, vowed today he would oppose Foreign Relations Committee efforts to "muscle in" on his jurisdiction over Central Intelligence Agency matters.

His pronouncement jeopardized a proposal to create a "Committee on Intelligence Operations" comprising three members each from Foreign Relations, Armed Services and Appropriations committees.

McCarthy Resolution

CIA affairs now are scrutinized by the latter two committees, where Russell plays a leading role. But tomorrow the Foreign Relations Committee is scheduled to vote on a resolution by Senator McCarthy (D., Minn.) designed to give it a role in overseeing the CIA.

If the McCarthy resolution passes this test, as expected, it may then encounter serious trouble if it is referred to the Senate Rules Committee where Russell has several powerful allies.

The Georgia Senator's attack on the CIA resolution today precipitated a rare floor debate about the undercover agency.

Russell denied there is a "scintilla of truth" in the charge that the CIA makes foreign policy. Senator Gruening (D., Alaska) pointed to the Bay of Pigs disaster as "proof" that it does.

Senator Fulbright (D., Ark.),



SENATOR RUSSELL
Calls charge "poppycock"

chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, tried to settle this dispute by saying that it should be agreed the CIA has a "major influence" over foreign affairs.

For this reason, Fulbright contended, his committee should be entitled to the "modest" share of oversight provided by the McCarthy resolution.

Fulbright Aims Complaint

He said the writing of an article on Vietnam by a CIA agent in the current issue of *Foreign Affairs Quarterly* plus charges that Michigan State University was used as a front for a CIA operation raised foreign policy questions.

Fulbright noted that CIA operations in certain countries are larger than those of the State Department.

And yet, he complained, William F. Raborn, director of the CIA, had told his committee that he could not give it certain infor-

mation he would give the Russell panel.

Today's lengthy Senate exchange brought new revelations about the CIA's controversial part on the 1961 Bay of Pigs disaster.

Russell said he would have advised President John Kennedy not to undertake the invasion of Cuba without giving it full support by the United States armed forces—including air cover. But the Georgian said he was not consulted.

Gore Recalls Visit

Senator Gore (D., Tenn.) said he was the first caller on President Kennedy the morning after the Cuban landing attempt. Gore said the President told him Gen. Lyman L. Lemnitzer, then chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, had advised the invasion would be feasible without air support.

That was the reason, Gore related, that he made his much-criticized statement after the Bay of Pigs defeat that Lemnitzer should be replaced.

The Tennessee Senator said the CIA has been highly successful in many instances, particularly in saving the "heart of Africa" from

Soviet seizure. But he insisted the CIA is such an "important executor" of foreign policy that surveillance by the Foreign Relations Committee is "overwhelmingly justified."

Senator Morse (D., Ore.) later took the floor to blame the Bay of Pigs fiasco squarely on the "grossly mistaken" advice given President Kennedy by the CIA.

He said opposition to the McCarthy resolution came from "those in the 'in' with the CIA [who] don't want the Foreign Relations Committee to have any checking authority" because its members might oppose many things the CIA is doing.

Committee Leaks Hinted

Russell, drawing bipartisan support from fellow members of the present CIA subcommittees, indicated there already is close scrutiny of CIA operations and expenditures.

He attributed the present effort to give the Foreign Relations Committee a CIA oversight role to the campaign of those oppose to the secrecy cover on CIA operations.

Intimating that the Foreign Relations Committee is notorious for leaking information to the press, Russell said he would fight a move that could jeopardize the operations and the lives of CIA agents.

The Georgia Senator drew support from Senators Symington (D., Mo.), Lausche (D., Ohio), Young (R., N.D.) and Saltonstall (R., Mass.).

They emphasized the secrecy that has been maintained under existing arrangements and stated that Congress thus is informed about where CIA money is hidden in other appropriations and about the agency's world-wide operations.

Russell's Strategy

Russell's surprise decision to air the CIA issue on the Senate floor apparently was timed to put his colleagues on notice there will be powerful opposition to the McCarthy resolution.

Last Thursday, in preliminary votes, the Foreign Relations Committee voted to send the resolution to the floor with a favorable recommendation. This is likely to be formalized tomorrow.

But backers of the resolution were pessimistic about its chances of final passage if, as anticipated, it must be referred to the Rules Committee. Most members of that committee are likely to oppose the resolution.